

week. I intended to attend school this winter-but shall not. As this is my first letter, I think I will close now.

Aged thirteen. Yours, "Clipper."

(140) Norway Sept 23, 1885
Dear Editor:-I am a little girl 12 years old, live on a farm And go to school, and study Arithmetic, Geogra- phy, Reading And Spelling. Berries have been very plenty around here this Summer. I have picked and Sold forty and one half quarts-of-strawberries and Eighty quarts of blackberries. I wash dishes, and make beds, And sweep, and sew patch-Work. I have pieced and set six quilts together. School is keep- ing now it has kept five Weeks, and I have not missed One day or ben late. I have Got a pet cat, and twenty Two chickens and two pet Bixies and they sing very Nice. I have got a little kitty And her name is daisie. As This is my first letter I will Close, and try and do better Next time.

Yours Sincerely. J.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

CLOD CRUSHER.—Owners of small farms who cannot afford expensive rollers and pulverizers, may make a cheap and useful implement by taking three or four slabs (according to their size), five feet long, and place them parallel two or three inches apart, with the convex sides down, and then secure them together by nailing strips of plank across the ends with large nails. Nail old horse-shoes a foot from each end for attaching the draft chain, and it is ready for use. When the ground is dry enough, it will grind and mellow the soil, and in connection with culti-

the harrows, will reduce it to fine pulverization. A small piece of scumming nailed at the rear edge, parallel with the slabs, will make a small stone beat of it, for drawing off any stones encountered in the work it is performing.

The utility of lime in agriculture few, perhaps none, doubt; exactly how, when, where and why, its best effects are realized, few, perhaps none, know. I do not; I do not know any one who does.

It is present in varying quantities in all soils, and is demanded by all crops taken from the soil, in quantities of from 10 pounds, or less, per acre, to 30 times 10, or more. To the extent of this requirement, as a direct plant-food, or constituent part of the plant, it probably exists in all soils; yet most will respond promptly and satisfactorily, in increased yield, to a liberal application of it. It is safe to say that no land which any experienced farmer would judge fit to sow to wheat, contains less than the 12 to 14 pounds of lime per acre, which an average crop of wheat actually absorbs; but I have seen the wheat crop nearly doubled by its use. Probably one bushel per acre is a liberal estimate of the average amount which enters directly into the plant-growth year after year on regularly cropped land. In liming districts, 50 bushels per acre are considered a moderate application. 100 bushels are more commonly used, and I have known 200 to be applied with seemingly good results.

The chief office of the excess above the needs of the crop grown (and if the above be true, all that we apply would appear to be excess), seems to be that of a solvent of the mineral matters and an aid to the decomposition

the vegetable matter already in the soil. Its power in hastening the decomposition of organic matter is wonderful. A the consideration of these apparent facts should lead to a more intelligent use of this valuable aid to agriculture than we sometimes see. Let us marshal the facts:

- It is a constituent part of all crops.
- It naturally exists in all (most) soils in quantities sufficient to supply their need.
- It is a solvent of the mineral constituents of all crops which exist in the soil.—*Farm Journal*.

While the silo has made great progress in establishing itself, it is interesting to observe the increase in the practice of growing corn for fodder to be fed dry to cattle during the winter months. The practice had its origin in the custom of sowing patch with southern or western corn, which it was intended should help supply the cows during the period of indifferent pasturing in the fall, and it has increased and been improved upon until now, where silos are not in use, it is quite common to see fields of fodder corn of sufficient capacity to supply all fall needs and leave a good supply for winter use. In Lancaster especially is this true, and in that excellent farming town one may see at this time of the year great many fields of excellent corn fodder cut and drying to be available as a change of feed later on. Whatever may be said of the relative merits of this system as compared with the silo, there is certainly much that can be said in its favor. It is an inexpensive way of getting a supply of fodder. It is easily cultivated, and the cost of harvesting is very light. Moreover, it

does not severely tax the soil, as the grain does not mature, and the cattlemen will relish as a palatable substitute for the best hay. It makes it possible to keep a large stock, and more manure is the result. But while there is less cost in securing it than in filling a silo, there is also more waste in feeding it, since cattle will not eat the stalks up clean, and the farmer who has a silo and sees the expenses with which his herd devour every fragment of ensilage will probably continue to cut and pack his corn fodder in his pits even at the unavailable additional expense.

THE BLOODROOT PLANT is one of the best diuretics or kidney regulators in the vegetable world, and the compound known as Blood Root filters a purer blood in all diseases of the kidneys, liver and blood.

CODDISH BAILS.—Soak one pound of coddish over night in cold water. In the morning, pour off the water and add enough tepid water to cover it, and let it stand three hours more; then scrape off any fat or rusty-looking portions, and put the coddish in a saucepan with some warm water, and let it simmer—not boil—for two hours. Remove from the fire and pick out all the bones. When cold chop it in a wooden bowl. Beat some potatoes and mash them very smoothly; add plenty of butter, salt to taste, and milk enough to make it sufficiently soft, and the beaten yolk of one egg. Now put in the fish, a little at a time, and mix all together, having it as soft as can be conveniently handled and made into cakes. If it is too stiff add more milk. The potatoes should be in the proportion of two cupsful to one of fish. When all is ready, flour your hands, and taking out a handful at a time, shape it into flat

cakes, if they are to be fried on a griddle, or into balls, if they are to be fried in hot-lard.

Pure blood is absolutely necessary in order to enjoy perfect health. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood and strengthens the system.

Oil from Eckard's Wella.

The skin on the head is kept soft and flexible by a secretion from the oil glands. When these are clogged the hair dries and falls off. Eckard's Hair Balsam renews their action, restores the original color to the hair and makes it soft and glossy. It also eradicates dandruff. Not greasy, not a dye, it cleansly purifies. Delightful for a lady's toilet-table. The best of dressings. Preferable to all similar articles because of its superior cleanliness and purity.

